THAT WHICH IS CLAIMED:

1. 1. A method for dynamically pricing viewing options in a digital broadband delivery system, the
2. method comprising:
3. receiving bandwidth allocation information from a bandwidth allocation manager; and
4. dynamically assigning a price criterion to a group of viewing options based at least in part on
5. the bandwidth allocation information.

1. 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving a subscriber request related to at least
2. one viewing option selected from the group of viewing options.

1. 3. The method of claim 2, wherein receiving the subscriber request comprises receiving a
2. subscriber request that comprises one of a request for a price criterion for the viewing option, a
3. request for viewing a program according to the viewing option, and a request for a list of available
4. viewing options.

1. 4. The method of claim 2, further comprising transmitting a price criterion for the viewing
2. option to the subscriber in response to the subscriber request.

1. 5. The method of claim 1, wherein dynamically assigning the price criterion to a group of
2. viewing options comprises dynamically assigning a price criterion to a group of viewing options,
3. wherein the group of viewing options comprises one of a reservation option, a normal-play option, a
4. random access option, an on-demand random access option, and an adjust preference option.

1. 6. The method of claim 5, wherein dynamically assigning a price criterion to a group of viewing
2. options comprises dynamically assigning a price criterion to a group of viewing options wherein the
3. price criterion assigned to the random access option comprises a fee associated with a length of time
4. that random access features are employed.

1. 7. The method of claim 1, wherein dynamically assigning a price criterion to a group of viewing
2. options comprises dynamically assigning a price criterion to a group of viewing options wherein the
3. price criterion is based at least in part on one of subscriber profile data, subscriber priority data, time
4. of bandwidth consumption, and a subscriber viewing time preference.

1. 8. The method of claim 1, wherein dynamically assigning a price criterion to a group of viewing
2. options comprises dynamically assigning a price criterion to a group of viewing options wherein the
3. price criterion comprises one of a subscriber incentive and a subscriber reward.

1. 9. The method of claim 1, wherein receiving bandwidth allocation information from a
2. bandwidth allocation manager comprising receiving bandwidth allocation information that comprises
3. information from a bandwidth allocation schedule.

1   10.   The method of claim 1, further comprising sending the assigned price criterion for at least one

2   of the group of viewing options to a subscriber.

1   11.   A pricing system for a digital broadband delivery system wherein the digital broadband

2   delivery system comprises a bandwidth allocation manager and wherein the pricing system receives

3   bandwidth allocation information from the bandwidth allocation manager and dynamically assigns a

4   price criterion to a group of viewing options based at least in part on the bandwidth allocation

5   information.

1   12.   The pricing system of claim 11, wherein the pricing system receives a subscriber request

2   related to at least one viewing option selected from the group of viewing options.

1   13.   The pricing system of claim 12, wherein the subscriber request received by the pricing system

2   comprises one of a request for a price criterion for a viewing option, a request for viewing a program

3   according to a viewing option, and a request for a list of available viewing options.

1   14.   The pricing system of claim 12, wherein the pricing system transmits at least one price

2   criterion to the subscriber in response to the subscriber request.

1   15.   The pricing system of claim 11, wherein the group of viewing options comprises one of a

2   reservation option, a normal-play option, a random access option, an on-demand random access

3   option, and an adjust preference option.

1   16.   The pricing system of claim 15, wherein price criterion assigned to the random access option

2   comprises a fee associated with a length of time that random access features are employed.

1   17.   The pricing system of claim 11, wherein the price criterion for at least one viewing option

2   selected from the group of viewing options is based at least in part on one of subscriber profile data,

3   subscriber priority data, time of bandwidth consumption, and a subscriber viewing time preference.

1   18.   The pricing system of claim 11, wherein the price criterion for at least one viewing option

2   selected from the group of viewing options comprises one of a subscriber incentive and a subscriber

3   reward.

1   19.   The pricing system of claim 11, wherein the bandwidth allocation information comprises

2   information from a bandwidth allocation schedule.

1   20.   A headend in a digital broadband delivery system comprising:

2   a bandwidth allocation manager that determines bandwidth allocation by dynamically

3   assigning a content delivery mode to a plurality of digital transmission channels; and

4   a pricing system that receives bandwidth allocation information from the bandwidth

5   allocation manager and dynamically assigns a price criterion to each of a group of viewing options

6   based at least in part on the bandwidth allocation information received from the bandwidth allocation

7   manager.

1   21.   The headend of claim 20,wherein the pricing system receives a subscriber request related to at

2   least one viewing option selected from the group of viewing options.

1   22.   The headend of claim 21, wherein the subscriber request received by the pricing system

2   comprises one of a request for a price criterion for a viewing option, a request for viewing a program

3   according to a viewing option, and a request for a list of available viewing options.

1   23.   The headend of claim 21, wherein the pricing system transmits at least one price criterion to

2   the subscriber in response to the subscriber request.

1   24.   The headend of claim 20, wherein the group of viewing options comprises one of a

2   reservation option, a normal-play option, a random access option, an on-demand random access

3   option, and an adjust preference option.

1   25.   The headend of claim 24, wherein price criterion assigned to the random access option

2   comprises a fee associated with the length of time that random access features are employed.

1   26.   The headend of claim 20, wherein the price criterion for at least one viewing option selected

2   from the group of viewing options is based at least in part on one of subscriber profile data, subscriber

3   priority data, time of bandwidth consumption, and a subscriber viewing time preference.

1   27.   The headend of claim 20, wherein the price criterion for at least one viewing option selected

2   from the group of viewing options comprises one of a subscriber incentive and a subscriber reward.

1   28.   The headend of claim 20, wherein the bandwidth allocation information comprises

2   information from a bandwidth allocation schedule.

1   29.   A digital broadband delivery system comprising:

2   a headend comprising a bandwidth allocation manager that determines bandwidth allocation

3   by dynamically assigning a content delivery mode to a group of digital transmission channels and a

4   pricing system that receives bandwidth allocation information from the bandwidth allocation manager

5   and dynamically assigns a price criterion to each of a group of viewing options based at least in part

6   on the bandwidth allocation information; and

7   a digital home communication terminal comprising an interface that receives a subscriber

8   request regarding one of the group of viewing options and a tuner that transmits the subscriber request

9   to the headend.

1   30.   The digital broadband delivery system of claim 29, wherein the digital home communication

2   terminal further comprises an interface for displaying a price criterion received from the headend in

3   response to the subscriber request.

1   31.   The digital broadband delivery system of claim 29, wherein the digital home communication

2   terminal further comprises an interface for displaying a menu comprising at least two viewing options

3   selected from the group of viewing options and the price criteria assigned to the at least two viewing

4   options.

1   32.   The digital broadband delivery system of claim 29, wherein the digital home communication

2   terminal further comprises an interface for displaying an indication of usage of a viewing option.

1   33.   The digital broadband delivery system of claim 32, wherein the interface for displaying an

2   indication of usage of a viewing option comprises an interface for displaying one of elapsed time,

3   time remaining, and cost incurred through use of a viewing option.

1   34.   The digital broadband delivery system of claim 32, wherein the interface for displaying an

2   indication of usage of a viewing option comprises an interface for displaying the indication of usage

3   of a viewing option intermittently.

1   35.   The digital broadband delivery system of claim 32, wherein the interface for displaying an

2   indication of usage of a viewing option comprises an interface for displaying the indication of usage

3   of a viewing option in response to the occurrence of a predefined event.

1   36.   The digital broadband delivery system of claim 35, wherein the predefined event comprises

2   one of a change in usage of a viewing option, use of a random access feature associated with a

3   viewing option, and expiration of an elapsed time period.

1   37.   The digital broadband delivery system of claim 29, wherein the digital home communication

2   terminal further comprises an interface for displaying an indication of an available alternate viewing

3   option.

1   38.   The digital broadband delivery system of claim 37, wherein the interface for displaying an

2   indication of an available alternate viewing option comprises a selectable icon representing a menu of

3   available alternate viewing options.

1   39.   The digital broadband delivery system of claim 37, wherein the interface for displaying an

2   indication of an available alternate viewing option comprises an interface for displaying the indication

3   of an available alternate viewing option in response to the occurrence of a predefined event.

1   40.   The digital broadband delivery system of claim 37, wherein the predefined event comprises

2   one of a change in usage of a viewing option, use of a random access feature associated with a

3   viewing option, expiration of an elapsed time period, and a change in available alternate viewing

4   options.

1   41.   The digital broadband delivery system of claim 29, wherein the subscriber request received by

2   the digital home communication terminal comprises one of a request for a price criterion for a

3   viewing option, a request for viewing a program according to a viewing option, and a request for a list

4   of available viewing options.

42.   The digital broadband delivery system of claim 29, wherein the group of viewing options

comprises one of a reservation option, a normal-play option, a random access option, an on-demand

random access option, and an adjust preference option.

1   43.   The digital broadband delivery system of claim 42, wherein the price criterion assigned to the

2   random access option comprises a fee associated with a length of time that random access features are

3   employed.

1   44.   The digital broadband delivery system of claim 29, wherein the price criterion for at least one

2   viewing option selected from the group of viewing options is based at least in part on one of

3   subscriber profile data, subscriber priority data, time of bandwidth consumption, and a subscriber

4   viewing time preference.

1   45.   The digital broadband delivery system of claim 29, wherein the digital home communication

2   terminal further comprises a storage device for storing content associated with a viewing option.

1   46.   The digital broadband delivery system of claim 45, wherein the digital home communication

2   terminal downloads content associated with a viewing option during a time period of low bandwidth

3   consumption and stores the content in the storage device for later retrieval.